



Education Watch

Enhancing Flexibility & Accountability ■ Leaving No Child Behind

U.S. House Education & the Workforce Committee ■ John Boehner, Chairman
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January 7, 2002

President Bush to Sign Education Reforms Tomorrow

Tomorrow, President Bush will sign H.R. 1, the *No Child Left Behind* education reform bill, into law. The bill targets federal education funds more than ever before to students and schools that are most in need of assistance. Local school districts will also receive significant new flexibility in the use of federal education funds, which will have fewer strings attached -- freeing local school officials to use federal education funds more effectively to address students' unique needs.

For example, in the home district of Rep. John Boehner, chairman of the House-Senate conference on education reform, H.R. 1 will benefit the Hamilton City School District in the following ways:

- **More Title I Funds.** The Hamilton City School District will see its Title I funds increase from \$2,563,500 in FY 2001 to \$2,685,900 this year. (The state of Ohio will receive a 10.8 percent increase in Title I funds overall this year.)
- **New Flexibility for Local Schools.** Under H.R. 1, the Hamilton City School District will receive significant new flexibility in the use of its federal education funds. The district will be able to make spending decisions with up to 50 percent of its non-Title I funds, an amount totaling \$408,585. For example, if the school district would prefer to use federal technology funds to hire new teachers, it can do so -- and it doesn't need the approval of the Department of Education (or anyone else) to do it.

Message of the Day

The *No Child Left Behind* reforms bring new purpose to a federal law that has lost its focus and never met its promise.

- *H.R. 1 targets more federal education resources to poor school districts.*
- *To meet the higher expectations of H.R. 1, local school districts and states will have new freedom from burdensome federal rules and red tape.*
- *With many school districts facing difficult budget choices, H.R. 1 gives local school leaders significant flexibility in targeting federal education where it's needed most.*

DAILY EDUCATION FACTS

- H.R. 1 provides all states and local school districts with the flexibility to shift federal dollars earmarked for one specific purpose to other uses that more effectively address their needs and priorities.
- H.R. 1 reduces the overall number of Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) programs to 45 -- two fewer ESEA programs than in the House-passed bill, 10 fewer ESEA programs than in current law, and 34 fewer ESEA programs than in the Senate-passed bill.
- H.R. 1 provides immediate new flexibility for all 50 states and every local school district in America. Seven states and 150 school districts could also participate in flexibility demonstration projects.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"These historic reforms will improve our public schools by creating an environment where every child can learn." -- President George W. Bush, December 18, 2001